10/4/71

Dear Sylvia (cc HR),

Today's mail has the most incredible Belin self-exposure yet! Excellent response.

If he is crazy enough to persist, may I suggest that you ask him to give you his considered opinion as an experienced court-room lawyer what of the evidence to which he refers or evenx has in mind could have withstood vigorous cross-examination by a competent, prepared defense lawyer and met the legal requirement imposed on the jury of overcoming all reasonable doubt.

If you do this, remnd him that for credibility in an ex parte proceeding the same standard must be ~~xxxxxx~~ applied by reasonable minds. You might add that under the doctrine of canon 5 the commission's lawyers had the obligation of serving both roles. That is, the primary obligation, under this canon, is not for a prosecutor to get a conviction but to see that justice is done. Hence I used the word "doctrine".

Try and get him to commit himself on this if HR represented your estimate of the possibilities. I think it will be something he'll either be crazy about or make him think and shut him up.

If and when you and HR have no further relations with him, maybe I'll find time for a short letter based on the TO articles. I'll take a different approach entirely. I did it once will Ball, and he was silent.

Thanks for the willingness to go over the MSs. As soon as I can I'll package and send a set. But don't feel under pressure to complete. I'll not delay this until I've posted what I'vepicked up. If I have posted them by the time I hear from you, changes of the length of a line will present a serious problem in time which I'll not have. The changes I've made reduce considerably the Post comments, a few on N.O., substituting DJ for Clark in a number of places, elimination of the ABA/Lane thing almost entirely (I'll use this and more in other writing), with the Jaworski-CIA part remaining and clarified and others I can't now recall. Of course error, regardless of problems carroection entails, must be rectified.

Since I wrote you earlier this a.m., I've developed something I must do Thursday a.m., I'll be away all of daylight tomorrow, and with the US Atty from Balt due here for the entire day Friday, I don't know if I can complete the editing of what will be II and is now designated III by the end of the week, but it is my target. Then, having the content in mind, I have files of suggestions already made to go over. HR went over the large files I had accumulated for the completion of the work, selected out what little he thought I could add, and made two files of these suggestions. They are accessible and waiting. I'll probably add a new, short final chapter on the panel, chiefly from my own correspondence with them, them meaning Justice and Fisher, and a few other things I've picked up where there is no restriction. Some ar restricted and I can't use. My own material is more than enough. I'd like to use some other things, as I recall them, for completeness only. One is fortunate to have arrogant enemies who depend upon raw power. They provide what friends cannot.

Sincerely,

Harold

Yes, of course I'll be glad to go over your PM manuscript, as you suggested in your last letter.

Best,

Sylvia